

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

- 1-3. (Cancelled)
4. (Currently Amended) A composition for softening an absorbent paper tissue comprising:
- a) a quaternary ammonium softening active ingredient;
 - b) an electrolyte;
 - c) a vehicle in which said softening active ingredient is dispersed;
- wherein the rheology of the composition is modified by the addition of a water-in-oil emulsion comprising:
- i) from about 20% to about 40% by weight of the premix of a high molecular weight polymer ~~comprising one or more pendant groups delivering a charge density of at least about 0.2 meq/g;~~
 - ii) from about 40% to about 60% of water; and
 - iii) from about 20% to about 40% of an organic solvent.
- and
- ~~wherein the high molecular weight polymer comprises from about 0.0005% to about 0.005% by weight of the composition~~
- wherein the composition exhibits consistent spray fracture.
5. (Cancelled)
6. (Currently Amended) A composition for softening an absorbent paper tissue comprising:
- a) from about 10% to about 60% by weight of the composition of a quaternary ammonium softening active ingredient;
 - b) an electrolyte;

- c) from about 0.0005% to about 0.5% ~~0.005%~~ of a high molecular weight polymer ~~comprising one or more pendant groups delivering a charge density of at least about 0.2 meq/g;~~
 - d) an aqueous vehicle in which said softening active ingredient is dispersed; wherein the rheology of the aqueous vehicle is modified by the addition of a water-in-oil emulsion comprising:
 - i) the high molecular weight polymer in a discontinuous aqueous phase, and
 - ii) a continuous organic solvent phase; and
wherein the composition exhibits consistent spray fracture.
7. (Previously Presented) The composition of Claim 6 wherein said softening active ingredient is selected from the group consisting of quaternary compounds; mono-, di-, and tri-ester quaternary ammonium compounds, and mixtures thereof.
 8. (Previously Presented) The composition of Claim 7 wherein said softening active ingredient is a mono-, di-, or tri-ester quaternary ammonium compound having the formula:

$$(R_1)_{4-m} - N^+ - [(CH_2)_n - Y - R_3]_m X^-$$
 wherein Y is -O-(O)C-, or -C(O)-O-, or -NH-C(O)-, or -C(O)-NH-;
 m is 1 to 3; n is 0 to 4; each R₁ is a C₁-C₆ alkyl or alkenyl group, hydroxyalkyl group, hydrocarbyl or substituted hydrocarbyl group, alkoxyated group, benzyl group, or mixtures thereof;
 each R₃ is a C₁₃-C₂₁ alkyl or alkenyl group, hydroxyalkyl group, hydrocarbyl or substituted hydrocarbyl group, alkoxyated group, benzyl group, or mixtures thereof; and
 X⁻ is any softener-compatible anion.
 9. (Previously Presented) The composition of Claim 8 wherein m is 3, n is 2, R₁ is methyl, R₃ is C₁₅-C₁₇ alkyl or alkenyl, and Y is -O-(O)C-, or -C(O)-O-.
 10. (Previously Presented) The composition of Claim 4 further comprising from about 2% to about 75% by weight of a plasticizer.
 11. (Previously Presented) The composition of Claim 4 wherein the electrolyte comprises up to about 15% by weight of the composition.

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12. (Previously Presented) The composition of Claim 4 further comprising from about 1% to about 20% by weight of the composition of a bilayer disrupter.
13. (Previously Presented) The composition of Claim 4 wherein the vehicle is water.
- 14-20. (Cancelled)